Page two

- 1. (Canceled)
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Page three

- 15. (Canceled)
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- 22. (Canceled)
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- 27. (Canceled)
- 28. (Canceled)

Page four

- 29. (Canceled)
- 30. (Canceled)
- 31. (Canceled)
- 32. (Withdrawn) The process of providing a porous filter for filtering a fluid which comprises:
- (a) measuring a Zeta Potential of one or more measured filters in said fluid wherein said measured filter has a nominal pore diameter between 0.1 and 10 microns and
- (b) filtering said fluid with one of said one or more measured filters having a Zeta Potential between about 10 and -10 millivolts in the fluid.
- 33. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the fluid is an aqueous fluid and the surface is substantially neutral over a preselected pH range.
- 34. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters have a Zeta Potential of between about 5 and -5 millivolts in a selected fluid.
- 35. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters have a log reduction value (LRV) of at least 3 of particles in the selected fluid.
- 36. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the the one or more filters have a log reduction value (LRV) of from about 3 to about 20 of paraticles in the selected fluid.

Page five

- 37. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters have a Zeta Potential of between about 10 and -10 millivolts in the selected fluid and a log reduction value (LRV) of at least 3 of the particles in the selected fluid.
- 38. (New Claim) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more fluids have a a Zeta Potential of between about 5 and -5 millivolts in the selected fluid and a log reduction value (LRV) of at least 3 of the particles in the selected fluid.
- 39. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the substantially neutral surface is inherent in the nature of the one or more filters.
- 40. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the substantially neutral surface is formed by surface modification of the one or more filters.
- 41. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the substantially neutral surface is modification of the filter and the surface modification is selected from the group consisting of cross linking and grafting of one or more monomers on surfaces of the one or more filters.
- 42. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the substantially neutral surface is formed by surface modification of the filter and the surface modification is by application of an energy source on surfaces of the one or more filters.
- 43. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters are made from a material selected from the group consisting of cellulose, glass, ceramics and metals.

978-526-4310 p.5

Mar 15 04 10:55a Paul J. Cook

Page six

- 44. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters are made from a material selected from the group consisting of cellulose, regenerated cellulose and nitrocellulose.
- 45. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters are made from a meta; selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, nickel, chromium and alloys and blends thereof.
- 46. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters are made from a plastic selected from the group consisting of polyolefins; copolymers or terpolymers of polyolefins; PVDF; PTFE resin; PFA; perfluorinated thermoplastic resins; PVD; nylons; polyamides; polysuflphones; polyethersulphones; polarylsulphones; polyphenylsulphones; polyimides; polycarbonates; polyesters; and blends thereof.
- 47. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters are made from a polyolefin selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene and the like.
- 48. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters are made from an ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene.
- 49. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 utilizing one or more filters each having pores of a nominal diameter between 0.1 and 10 microns and the one or more porous filters having a surface having an IEP within a selected operating range of pH above about 4 such that the filter surface either maintains a neutral or weak charge or does not acquire a highly charged surface within the selected pH range.

lar 15 04 10:56a Paul J. Cook

Page seven

- 50. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 utilizing one or more filters each having pores of a nominal diameter between 0.1 and 10 microns and the one or more porous filters having a surface having an IEP that matches the pH of the liquid having a pH above about 4 in which it is used.
- 51. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 30 utilizing two or more filters in a composite filter, each with a different IEP.
- 52. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of acrylate or acrylamide monomers and methacrylate or acrylamide monomers and blends thereof.
- 53. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with acrylic acid.
- 54. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with acrylic acid, a photoinitiator and a cross linker.
- 55. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with acrylic acid, a photoinitiator and a cross linker, wherein the cross linker is N, N'-methylenebisacrylamide.
- 56. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with N, N'-methylenebisacrylamide.

Page eight

- 57. (Withdrawn) The process of Claim 32 wherein the one or more filters have a log reduction value (LRV) of at least 3 of particles of an average diameter that is smaller than the nominal pore size of the filter in the selected fluid.
- 58. (Previously Presented) The process of filtering a fluid containing positively charged particles and negatively charged particles to remove said positively charged particles and said negatively charged particles from said fluid which comprises:

filtering said fluid with one or more filters having a nominal pore diameter between 0.1 and 10 microns and having a Zeta Potential between about 0 and -5 millivolts in the fluid.

- 59. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the fluid is an aqueous fluid and the surface is substantially neutral over a preselected pH range.
- 60. (Canceled) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters have a log reduction value (LRV) of at least 3 of particles in the selected fluid.
- 61. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters have a log reduction value (LRV) of from about 3 to about 20 of particles in the selected fluid.
- 62. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the substantially neutral surface is inherent in the nature of the one or more filters.

Page nine

- 63. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the substantially neutral surface is formed by surface modification of the one or more filters.
- 64. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the substantially neutral surface of the filter is modified and the surface modification is selected from the group consisting of cross linking and grafting of one or more monomers on surfaces of the one or more filters.
- 65. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the substantially neutral surface is formed by surface modification of the filter and the surface modification is by application of an energy source on surfaces of the one or more filters.
- 66. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from a material selected from the group consisting of cellulose, glass, ceramics and metals.
- 67. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from a material selected from the group consisting of cellulose, regenerated cellulose and nitrocellulose.
- 68. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from a metal selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, nickel, chromium and alloys and blends thereof.
- 69. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from a plastic selected from the group consisting of

Page eleven

- 76. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with acrylic acid, a photoinitiator and a cross linker, wherein the cross linker is N, N'-methylenebisacrylamide.
- 77. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with N, N'-methylenebisacrylamide.
- 78. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters have a log reduction value (LRV) of at least 3 of particles of an average diameter that is smaller than the nominal pore size of the filter in the selected fluid.

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